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ABSTRACT

Noting that grandparents in the parenting role are often overwhelmed by the problems of their children, grandchildren, and the social milieu in which they live, this manual presents a 14-session workshop series designed to empower grandparents who are raising their grandchildren alone. Designed to complement "To Grandmother's House We Go and Stay," the workshop sessions focus on strengthening the parenting skills of grandparents so that they are better able to cope with the many challenges they face. The manual's introductory chapter details the development and implementation of the curriculum with a group of African-American grandparents in New York City. The 3-hour workshop topics are: (1) "Understanding Empowerment"; (2) "Helping Children Build Self-Esteem"; (3 and 4) "Communicating with Children; (5) "Dealing with Behavior Problems"; (6) "Talking with Your Grandchild about Sex and HIV" (7) "Talking with Your Grandchild about Drugs"; (8) "Dealing with Loss"; (9) "Dealing with a Child's Grief and Loss"; (10) "Navigating the Service System"; (11) "Legal and Entitlement Issues"; (12) "Developing Advocacy Skills"; (13) "Getting Your Message Across"; and (14) "What Did We Learn?" Each workshop includes the objectives, information for leaders, and instructions for activities. The manual concludes with a list of 14 national organizations focusing on the needs of grandparent caregivers and their grandchildren. (Contains 17 references.) (KB)

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